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AT NOON THURSDAY BE READY.

Chattanooga's patriotism will have its severest test tomorrow with the coming of the united war work campaign. This campaign is going to be more truly a measure of the public usefulness than any which has come before. This one will come right in the dip of reaction following the exaltation of the last few days—when the public is apt to say, "Well, Germany is licked at last," and let it go at that.

But such an attitude must not be allowed to arise. The fine devotion and patriotism which have marked previous campaigns and made Chattanooga famous as a city which does things right must be evident in larger measure than ever before.

For the need is greater than ever before. The \$150,000, which is Chattanooga's quota, will go, every cent of it, to increase the comfort and happiness of those boys who have made it possible for us to speak of the victory.

The money which is to be raised will be expended in furnishing that something—that comfort and convenience and friendly touch—which is the best expression of our appreciation. It will be expended by the seven allied organizations with the effectiveness of which everybody is familiar.

So let us make sure that the old Chattanooga "pep" which has made us famous. Let everybody this afternoon and tomorrow morning prepare for the whirlwind campaign at noon by concluding every telephone conversation—or every other conversation, for that matter—with some reference to the coming event of the noon hour, and a reminder to the other party to have his contribution ready.

And then have your contribution ready to rush out and drop in the bag which will be sent for it.

The campaign has been conceived and planned in a spirit of the finest enthusiasm—a spirit which is spectacular and American to the highest degree—and we must make our response equally so.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT.

There is a latent spirit of tyranny in most of us which surges to the surface on occasion. We find ourselves enjoying prescribing penalties and punishments for the other fellow which would be anything but acceptable to ourselves in like circumstance. We rarely think of having measured back to us the measure we mete out. We associate ourselves with the idea of being the executioner instead of the culprit. In a democracy, this selfish trait, which infects most of us, is supposed to provide its own offset, but it is a very difficult matter to maintain a proper balance—to prevent the strong from imposing upon the weak.

These thoughts are evoked by an editorial discussion, in one of our exchanges, of the time-worn topic of corporal punishment. With a hypothetical assumption that corporal punishment is good for children, our contemporary invokes it for adults, especially the profiteers. "Treat them as unruly children and make them behave," is the suggestion. This may do well in a way. There are instances in which the corporal punishment of children undoubtedly has good effect. The same might be true of adults. But the cases in both instances would be much more rare than many suppose. To treat adult men as children should be made to fit the crime may be a good working theory, but even then, its purpose must be considered. If it is to be administered purely for revenge or retaliation, cruelty may be given more or less rein, but if it is intended to be corrective, it should rarely be of a nature to deprive one of his remaining shreds of self-respect. A person without self-respect is slow about developing into a good citizen. In our case, therefore, to devise methods of punishment, we should continually keep in mind the possibility that we might some time be our own victim.

We sometimes delight in another's misery. Even in a free democracy, intolerance and pharisaism are not unknown in a time of war. We call down maledictions for things we do every day, and we unhesitatingly deny to others what we consider our inherent rights. We hardly ever think of our own sins when we stand up to condemn the sinner. We are frequently lacking in a sense of humor. If the whipping post would be a good corrective of our own frailties, it might work equally well with others. But we should probably not enjoy the shoe on that foot.

BASIC CURRENCY AGAIN.

In the case of most products, of which the war has caused a dearth, more adequate supplies may be expected when peace conditions resume. But the output of gold has been falling off for some time and its production is not expected to be materially increased after the war. There is thought to be considerable gold still in the earth, but it is claimed that mining, at present prices, is no longer profitable. And a London writer predicts that when peace is restored the competition for gold will be keener than ever.

This view of the matter suggests that the currency question may again become prominent, this time as one of the problems of reconstruction. This may readily be conceived if our old-time ideas of basic currency are to prevail in future. With no prospect of relief from the continually narrowing basis, the great overflow of credit currency would soon become too heavy, and the commercial and economic fabric would be threatened again with a "loss of confidence" and a possible financial crash.

Something may happen to avert such stringency. Once before a similar—or worse—condition prevailed when, all of a sudden, immense deposits of workable gold were discovered in Alaska and northwest Canada. These were not expected at the time. Experts, who had studied the subject, thought that the mine output would continue to be progressively smaller. Other surprise discoveries may be made which will again relieve the situation, but the chances are somewhat less than they were before.

Other expedients may have to be resorted to in providing against the impending need. The rather questionable, novel and uncertain plan of paying bounties for the production of more gold has been suggested—and may be resorted to. Or, conceivably, the world might again consider a larger use of silver. In the latter emergency, the United States is in a better position to obtain such "consent" of Great Britain to a radical currency change, but the present economic and credit facilities of this country would make its decision supreme, in any event.

Currency and credit questions are likely to assume a very great importance in the process of world reconstruction, and the haphazard matter of basic currency can hardly escape another over-hauling.

be interesting to note the course it takes.

RABBITS FOR MEAT.

On several occasions this paper has noted and pointed out the possibilities of rabbit culture as a food resource for the country. And by this we mean the common wild rabbit as well as the domesticated varieties. Food restrictions necessitated by the war's demands have resulted in incidental surveys of new avenues of supply, one of which has shown the economic value of rabbits. In commenting on the proposition, a leading western newspaper recently declared: "Fully 200,000,000 wild rabbits are killed in the United States every year, according to estimates made by the biological survey of the United States department of agriculture. Many of them are jack rabbits, the majority of which have not been utilized in the past. If all the rabbits killed were consumed, they would represent between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 tons of valuable food, and if proper measures were taken to insure the collection of skins, alone would have a value of \$20,000,000."

In the days of the plenitude of our resources, we ignored and wasted much that was valuable. But we shall have to be more careful hereafter. On the foregoing estimate it is shown that the carcasses and skins of rabbits killed mainly for the sport of it are worth anywhere from \$50,000,000 to \$60,000,000 a year; it has not been the practice to utilize very much of the meat and scarcely any of the skins. In fact, the rabbit has been regarded as a liability rather than an asset. The paper quoted above remarks further along:

"The department of agriculture has been called upon to help western farmers in coping with the rabbit pest. In view of the probable economic value of rabbit meat and fur in the coming few years, the energies of the farmers and ranchmen will be directed to the conservation of this important resource. Already a number of establishments for collecting, dressing, curing and shipping rabbit meat are in operation in western centers. As in Australia, the transition of the wild rabbit in this country from its status as pest to a source of profit is assured, it is believed."

Which indicates that after so long a time, we are coming to understand that the rabbit is not intentionally an enemy, but a friend who is perfectly loyal to his country. Instead of being ruthlessly exterminated—a very difficult task—he only needs to have his activities directed into proper and harmless channels. Gradually his good qualities are winning recognition and a community of interest is being established between him and his human—if not humane—neighbors.

Beginnings are being made in the establishment of the rabbit industry. Rabbit clubs are being organized. Production and preservation of rabbit meat will be stimulated. And since the rabbit is a cosmopolitan and a very economic feeder, the cultivation of the industry ought to result in a greatly increased output over the previous annual slaughter.

Some anxiety is manifested in the steel industry over the possible effect of peace developments on the shipbuilding program. It is not believed, however, that there will be any slackening of construction for a good while yet.

Australia has a quite efficient system of war financing. Taxes on incomes extend to a rather low limit and those whose incomes are \$1,250 or over are compelled to purchase government bonds in amount six times as great as their income taxes.

There was no apparent ground for any contest over the election of a state senator from Hamilton county, and the public generally will be glad to know that none will be made. No candidate could have afforded to take advantage of the stealing of ballots and tally sheets from an election box. Mr. Clegg's statement closes the matter.

Oats, which are quoted in Chicago at 70 cents, can be purchased in Argentina for 27 1/2 cents, but there are few boats to ship them. A very similar condition is said to exist with respect to Australian wheat.

UNITY.

One of the most beautiful things about this war work campaign, we think, is the evidence it gives of the religious unity of the country in every great humanitarian movement. Catholic and Protestant, Jew and Gentile, religionists of every form of worship from the ritual of the cathedral to the faith of the Salvation Army unite, march arm in arm, go hand in hand. This does not mean that there is any common anywhere as to doctrine. It just indicates that the believers in an almighty and merciful God can get together on the work which is necessary in the world. These seven great organizations, which are to be added in the subscription tomorrow, are our agents among the soldiers of democracy. Their work will now be extended to the territory where the former enemy has evacuated. They will also, no doubt, relieve distress among those over whom we have prevailed. They are doing the work of the Jehovah of the Jews and of the Jesus of the Christians. It was President Wilson who urged that this campaign be made in combination in this way. That it is possible to do it wholeheartedly and with increased zeal is sure proof of a greater church unity hereafter.

Let's lay aside narrow prejudice and creed—the boys fight shoulder to shoulder, knowing no such things. In ten minutes on Thursday, Nov. 14, let's show them we, too, can go "over the top" at the word of command. Give quickly, liberally, and then see to it that your neighbor follows your patriotic example. It's now—when everybody's doing it!

Between 11:50 and 12 noon on Thursday will you match that boy's patriotism by signing and mailing the pledge of the U. W. W.? Do it cheerfully, quickly and openly—do it so that your neighbor knows you have done it and is ashamed to look you in the eye until